(c) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR):

New medicine for malaria

*253. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have invented a new medicine based on plants to prevent malaria;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have completed the trial process of the said medicine and by when this medicine would be available to the common man?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) to (c) The new medicine derived from traditional Chinese herbal preparation-Quinghaosu (Artemisinin, from the herb Artemisia annua and its derivatives-Artemther, Arteether and Artesunate) has been approved for use under the National Malaria Drug Policy of the National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme.

Artemisinin derivatives are to be used to P.falciparum severe and complicated malaria cases and for Pf malaria cases not responding to conventional anti-malaria drugs i.e. chloroquine. The drug is available under the programme for treatment of P.falciparum malaria resistant to anti-malaria drug chloroquine.

Before introducing the drug in the programme, it has undergone clinical trials and has been approved by the Drug Controller General of India for use.

Disease Surveillance Labs

*254. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Centres for Disease Control, United States, will help India in setting up disease surveillance labs to track disease out-breaks in the country;